

Primer to the Immune Response: Academic Cell Update Edition

By Tak W. Mak, Mary E. Saunders

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Primer to the Immune Response effectively presents complex immunological concepts. The book is divided into two parts, which cover basic immunology and clinical immunology.

Part I presents the history and nature of immune response, and it describes the general features of the innate and adaptive immune responses. This part also explores the components of the immune system such as the cells and tissues. It also illustrates the intracellular communication through signal induction, intercellular communication through cytokines, and the cellular movement in the immune system. Furthermore, this part discusses proteins and genes, the development, activation and effector functions of both B cells and T cells.

Part II focuses on clinical immunology and covers immunity to infection caused by extracellular and intracellular bacteria, viruses, parasites and fungi. This part also describes different kinds of diseases, such as the Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome caused by the Human Immunodeficiency virus, tumors, autoimmune diseases, and hematopoietic cancers. This part also includes discussions on vaccination, transplantation, and different types of immune hypersensitivity.

- Color illustrations enhance key topics and concepts

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Editorial Review

About the Author
Tak W. Mak is the Director of the Campbell Family Institute for Breast Cancer Research in the Princess Margaret Hospital, Toronto, Canada, and a University Professor in the Departments of Medical Biophysics and Immunology, University of Toronto. He was trained at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, the University of Alberta, and the Ontario Cancer Institute. He gained worldwide prominence in 1984 as the leader of the team that first cloned the genes of the human T cell antigen receptor. His group went on to create a series of genetically altered mice that have proved critical to understanding intracellular programs governing the development and function of the immune system, and to dissecting signal transduction cascades in various cell survival and apoptotic pathways. His current research remains centered on mechanisms of immune recognition/regulation, malignant cell survival/death, inflammation in autoimmunity and cancer, and metabolic adaptation in tumor cells. Dr. Mak has published over 700 papers and holds many patents. He has been granted honorary doctoral degrees from universities in North America and Europe, is an Officer of the Orders of Canada and Ontario, and has been elected a Foreign Associate of the National Academy of Sciences (U.S.), a Fellow of the Royal Society of London (U.K.), and a Fellow of the AACR Academy. Dr. Mak has won international recognition as the recipient of the Emil von Behring Prize, the King Faisal International Prize for Medicine, the Gairdner Foundation International Award, the Sloan Prize of the General Motors Cancer Foundation, the Novartis Prize in Immunology, the Robert Noble Prize, the Killam Prize, the Stacie Prize, the McLaughlin Medal, and the Paul Ehrlich and Ludwig Darmstaedter Prize.

Mary E. Saunders holds the position of Scientific Editor for the Campbell Family Institute for Breast Cancer Research, Toronto, Canada. She completed her B.Sc. degree in Genetics at the University of Guelph, Ontario, and received her Ph.D. in Medical Biophysics at the University of Toronto. Dr. Saunders works with Dr. Mak and members of his laboratory on the writing and editing of scientific papers for peer-reviewed journals as well as on various grant applications and book projects. She takes pride and pleasure in producing concise, clear, highly readable text and making complex scientific processes readily understandable.

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